



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Putney

Vision: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish

Mission: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian faith

Values: Compassion • Endurance • Thankfulness

Year 1: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Summer Term 1, April 2024

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

I hope that you have all had a fun and restful Easter break. The children are excited and have come back to school ready for another busy and fun filled half term! We have already had a great start to the term.

Classroom Resources

Thank you for all your hard work on the cake sale last half term. As well as general class resources, we have bought some new books and stickers. The children are also thinking about what else they would like including any treats that they might want as they have almost filled their marble jar!

The Curriculum

To view the Year 1 curriculum intent please see the Year 1 Curriculum Map, which can be viewed on our school website here: <https://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Year-One-Class-Curriculum-Map.pdf>

We will be following the content outlined in the Summer Term.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding the children at St. Mary's is the responsibility of all staff, parents and professionals who come on site. If you have a safeguarding concern, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Kerry Dunford. Her contact email is: kdunford.212@lgflmail.org.

If there are safeguarding concerns, which take place outside of school hours please contact the Wandsworth Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Their contact details are: Telephone: 020 8871 6622 or e-mail: MASH@wandsworth.gov.uk.

PE Arrangements

PE lessons will continue to take place every **Monday** and **Thursday**. Your child should attend school on these days wearing the St. Mary's PE kit. If your child takes part in a school sports club before or after school on a **non-PE** day, they are required to change i.e. sports club before school please bring school uniform to change into and after school bring PE kit to be changed into.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT (AND SUITABLE FOOTWEAR - TRAINERS FOR OUTDOORS) IS IN SCHOOL ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS - LABELLED CLEARLY.

Vocabulary

We know from research that the size of a child's vocabulary is a good predictor of success. Children with a poor vocabulary at five are four times more likely to struggle with reading in adulthood (*Why Closing the Word Gap Matters: Oxford Language Report, 2018*). A wide vocabulary not only aids reading and writing but also supports success across the entire curriculum. For this reason, the acquisition of new vocabulary is an important part of a child's development.

Vocabulary can be learned in two ways:

- Through indirect instruction
- Through direct instruction

Indirect instruction can be through rich reading experiences, conversations, games etc and involve a natural development of vocabulary. Children will need to use their background knowledge and pay attention to context to work out the meanings of words.

Direct instruction involves teaching specific vocabulary. This happens across the curriculum at school. Children are taught both general and subject specific vocabulary.

You can help to develop your child's vocabulary at home by reading a range of high quality texts with them, having conversations, playing word games, using a range of vocabulary yourself and discussing new vocabulary words that they might come across.

Home Learning Arrangements

Home Learning will be set on a **Friday** and will be due the following **Wednesday**.

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Spellings:** Spelling cards have been sent home and can also be found in the Home Learning channel on MS Teams. Weekly spellings are tested on **Friday**. Please ensure that your child brings their spelling card to school on a **Friday** so that we can mark down their score for you to see how they did and what they might need to work on.
- **Dictation:** Dictation cards will be sent home the week **after** spelling cards and are to be completed by the following Wednesday. The due dates are written on the cards to help you! Please do not go ahead. The dictation helps us to see what your child has been able to retain and what we might need to go over again so please do not let your child see the card before writing and please do leave in any mistakes that your child might make.
- **Grammar:** reinforcement sheets will be sent home during the week (when appropriate), for the children to complete and to let you know what we have been covering in class. These are for your reference and do not need to be returned.
- **Reading:** We expect that children will read aloud every night for at least 10 minutes. Inside the front and back covers of the Oxford Reading Tree books, there are useful questions to ask your child to probe their understanding of the text. Please refer to these before, during and after reading together. Reading folders should be brought into school every day in order to enable us to read with your child at school as well. Reading books are changed on a **Wednesday evening**. We will keep reading folders overnight on a Wednesday and they will be returned home every **Thursday** after book change. **Please ensure that you write in the Reading Record when your child needs new books, otherwise they won't be changed! Books are changed, if requested, on WEDNESDAYS ONLY. We cannot guarantee that books can be changed after this.**
- **Maths:** This will be set on **Friday** via Mathletics. Your child will be set a task on Mathletics which should be completed by the following **Wednesday**. Please let me know if you need to be sent your login details.

Diary dates

- Friday 26th April 2024 - Year One trip to Battersea Park Zoo trip
- Tuesday 30th April 2024 - Parent Volunteer Induction at 2pm
- Friday 3rd May 2024 - Celebration Worship 9.15am
- Monday 6th May 2024 - Bank Holiday
- Thursday 9th May 2024 - All England Lawn Tennis Club session (PE kits to be worn)
- Saturday 11th May 2024 - FOSM Spring Ball 6pm
- Thursday 16th May 2024 - Year One Trip to Holly Lodge
- Thursday 23rd May 2024 - Godly Play at St. Mary's Church
- Friday 24th May 2024 at 3.20pm - End of Summer Term 1

Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or to inform us of other matters relating to your child (e.g., if your child is being collected by someone who does not usually collect them), then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 1 team. As always, the best way to do this is through the PACT e-mail. The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it. The address is: Class2022@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk

Keep in the loop with social media

The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us:
Twitter <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Best wishes for the term ahead.

Kindest regards,

Miss Barrett, Miss Cyz, Miss Monaco and Mr Kam